



**HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
CENTER FOR MEDICAID AND STATE OPERATIONS**

Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group
Division of Integrated Health Systems
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April 6, 2001

Mark Trail, Acting Director
Georgia Department of Community Mental Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30303-3159

Dear Mr. Trail:

We are pleased to inform you that the Health Care Financing Administration is approving the State of Georgia's request for renewal of the Georgia Mental Health and Mental Retardation Preadmission Screening and Annual Resident Review (PASARR) Program under the authority of §1915(b)(1) and §1915(b)(4) of the Social Security Act (the Act). Georgia's request for a waiver of §1902(a)(10) (B) (Comparability of Services) is approved for a two-year period beginning April 9, 2001 and ending on April 8, 2003.

This decision is based on the submitted evidence showing that the State's waiver program is consistent with the purpose of the Medicaid program and will assure adequate access to mental health and mental retardation rehabilitation services by Medicaid recipients residing in nursing facilities in both rural and urban areas in the State of Georgia. Additionally, the waiver will achieve cost effectiveness by competitively bidding and contracting with one provider who will provide rehabilitation services at a capitated rate.

I congratulate the State on past accomplishments under this waiver program and wish you and your staff continued success in the future. If you require additional information, you may contact Elizabeth Mack, of my staff, on (410) 786-1282 or Gail Quattlebaum at (404) 562-7421 from our Atlanta Regional office.

Sincerely,

/s/

Theresa A. Pratt
Director
Division of Integrated Health Systems

cc: Eugene A. Grasser, Jr., ARA Region IV
Gail Quattlebaum, Region IV

